An Extract of two Eſſays in Political Arithmetick *concerning the comparative Magnitudes, &c. of* London *and* Paris *by Sr.* William Petty *Knight. R. S. S.*

The excellent Author of theſe two Eſſays, has in ſeveral former of the ſame Nature made it appear that Mathematical Reaſoning, is not only applicable to Lines and Numbers, but affords the beſt means of Judging in all the concerns of humane Life. In the preſent he endeavours to prove *London*, as it now is, the moſt conſiderable City now in being, by ſhewing it much to exceed *Paris*, (which not only the *French* but foreigners have aſſerted to be the chief City of *Europe*.) both in People, Houſing, and Wealth: The firſt by comparing the Bills of Mortality, whereby he finds that the People of *London* are as many as thoſe of *Paris* and *Rouen* put togather. The ſecond by compareing the number of Houſes, which by the Chimny-Books are found above 80000 in *London*, whereas a great Author among the *French*, (who ſeldome faile to magnifie their own things,) reckons but 50000 Houſes in *Paris*. As to the third, to wit the Wealth, he conceives that there is yet a much greater diſproportion, there being no compariſon between them for Trade, and beſides a good argument drawn from the Law-Suites of both places, he concludes from the *Paris* bills of Mortality, that two 5*ths* of the People of *Paris* are ſo poor that they chuſe rather to die in Hoſpitals, than lie ſick at their own Charges; and that a third of the whole People of that City, die out of the moſt wretched Hoſpitall of *L'-Hoſtel Dieu*; wheras at *London* there dies ſcarce one in fifte in our Hoſpitals. Hereupon in the ſecond Eſſay, our Author extends his Charity to thoſe poor wretches, ſhewing how by a reaſonable expence, 3000 perſons might be there ſaved *per Annum*, who die for want of good aocommodation. The whole is ſo cloſe writt, that it will not bare Epitomizing, wherefore I rather recommend it to the Curious who cannot but be ſatisfied therewith.

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